

A 2612-97

P.O.Box 277  
Ashton, IA 51232  
December 5, 2011

To the Postal Regulatory Commission:

RECEIVED

I feel that the closure of the Ashton Post Office just doesn't make sense. 2011 DEC 13 PM 5:00

We've been told that a reason for closing is that we don't have a postmaster. We don't NEED a highly-paid 'postmaster'. We are getting along well with an "officer-in-charge" and the reduced open hours. POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

We've been told that the second reason we are being closed is because the postal service is losing money. Our post office retail receipts have been \$36,534, \$31,557 and \$31,612 in the fiscal years between 2008-2010 and you project an annual cost savings of only \$25,974 by closing the Ashton Post Office. That doesn't make sense at all, so why close it?

Your criteria for closure seem to not be helping the problem but rather adding to it. It would seem to make much more sense to dismiss the higher-paid workers in other post offices. Since you have a policy of not wanting to dismiss any postmasters, it would seem that you should transfer them to a larger office and use more 'lesser paid' workers to keep open these smaller post offices that are running at a profit.

Why make hardships for our bank, our library, and the few businesses we have left in Ashton plus the 147 box holders--causing them to have to drive 15-20 mile trips to mail packages or time-sensitive mail.

Why make it harder for our rural carrier who would have to deliver all the mail, PLUS sell stamps and services and deal with some packages? One carrier will probably not be able to handle all of this and then you'll have to pay wages to another worker anyway.

Please evaluate the situation sensibly. We have written before and you don't seem to be listening. Thank you.

Received

Alfreda Verdoorn, director  
Ashton Public Library

DEC 13 2011  
Office of PAGR